

# THE PORTAL



FOUNDED  
IN 1901

A PUBLICATION OF BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL

VOLUME EIGHT, NUMBER ONE

WINTER 1996



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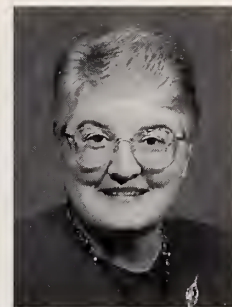
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COVER PHOTO:  
The School Contributors to  
the 8th Manitoba Student Leadership Conference  
(Photo courtesy of Jostens)

The Portal is published by  
Balmoral Hall School  
630 Westminster Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3S1

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Production, Design, Printing:  
Bulman Communications Group Limited  
574 Ellice Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1Z8



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The theme of this year's *Portal* is leadership. Leadership is central to the success of all organizations as it establishes the goals and how these are to be realized. When the membership shares these goals, the organization will flourish.

Diane Bieber, as the recently appointed Head of Balmoral Hall School, discusses her form of leadership in this issue of *The Portal*. She introduces her leadership team and places the emphasis on teamwork. She expresses her belief that "Together Everyone Achieves More".

The students have been learning about leadership and teamwork. At the 8th Manitoba Student Leadership Conference, the students were given an insight into how to lead in their personal lives, and, therefore, in their schools. One of the ways the students of Balmoral Hall have shown team leadership is represented by the many musical productions performed this past year. The students worked together with

team spirit and achieved excellent results.

Leadership can take the form of individual excellence arising from teamwork. This is exemplified by Aylia Mohammadi and her article on the World Debate and Public Speaking Tournament, where she excelled through hard work and team effort. Susan Bracken ('66) wrote an article on the DPPE story where she excelled in her field by working as part of a team to contribute to the struggle against cancer.

Sometimes it is the less-visible, non-titular member of a team whose work shows leadership. The visible leader can often do her best work by allowing members of the team to strive toward excellence; thereby lifting the whole team and all associated with it.

Read this issue and discover the wonderful, interesting, participatory lives that the members of the Balmoral Hall community lead. So many live up to our motto — *Meliora Petens*.



# Interview With The Head of School

by Sharon Vogel

*Director of Development/Marketing*

**T**he new Head of Balmoral Hall School, Diane Bieber, brings many years of academic and administration experience and expertise to this position. Diane is married to Andrew Bieber who has been most supportive and encouraging in her new role.

**Q: You were appointed Head of School in January 1996. How are you approaching your role?**

A: I am approaching my role as Head of the School with excitement and anticipation, as we move towards a new millenium and the celebration of Balmoral Hall's 100th Birthday in 2001. A lot has changed at Balmoral Hall over the years, but one thing remains constant — we want to continue to be the best independent girls' school in Canada. To do this, we will continue to anticipate the needs of our ever-changing society, so we may prepare our students to compete and be successful in this environment. I know we'll achieve our goals with the continued support of the School's wonderful community of students, parents, faculty, staff, and Alumnae.

**Q: How is the School adapting to the changing needs of students and the marketplace?**

A: Firstly, we've reorganized our administration structure, with an emphasis on teamwork. This way we can operate in a streamlined, focused fashion. As a team, we're reassessing our academic programs, co-curricular programs and the leadership opportunities to give our students the well-rounded skills they'll need to continue to excel once they graduate.

We're also working to get students more involved in decision-making in all areas of school life, so they will take ownership, increase their independent skills and have greater accountability for their actions. For example, the Director of Middle/Senior School - Academics is encouraging students to become more involved in the process of choosing a university.

We also believe it is important to encourage our students to become

more involved in the community. The Director of Middle/Senior School - Student Programs is seeking more involvement of our students in the community and business world. For instance, we had our Grade 7 class participate in "Take Our Kids to Work Day" in November, and we're increasing our involvement with Junior Achievement.

As well as looking at programs and what our students need for successful futures, we are considering physical improvements to the School which are necessary to continue being the best girls' school in Canada. We're in the final stages of our Capital Campaign and the proceeds will be a new Athletic Centre, a Theatre/Performing Arts Centre, and a Media/Technology Centre.

**Q: What challenges and opportunities have you identified?**

A: Some say that the increasing number of all-girls classes in public schools is a challenge to our School. I view this trend as an opportunity. It tells me that more parents are seeing the merits of a single-gender education, and that they are seeking out this environment for their daughters. Generally speaking, statistics show that enrolment in independent schools is on the rise. Studies prove that girls *do* learn better in a single-sex environment. We've known this for years. We have written the book on this educational approach, so to speak, with nearly 100 years of practice! Some public schools are copying a few of the things we are doing and as the saying goes, "imitation is the greatest form of flattery".

I recognize the importance of having an international component to our student population, and I think there are opportunities in this realm. Recruiting students from around the world to live in residence continues to be an ongoing part of our School's mandate.

In a nutshell, this is a very exciting time to be leading Balmoral Hall. Opportunities abound for our students and School.



*Diane Bieber,  
Head of School*

**Q: What role do you see for the Alumnae?**

A: I would like to see the Alumnae more involved in many aspects of the School, acting as role models, speakers, volunteers, and mentors for students. I look forward to more interaction between current students and Alumnae.

We have started to implement some of these philosophies by hosting a ten-year reunion for the Class of '86. It was wonderful to see the Class of '86 talking to the students who will graduate this year. We need to band together and support each other emotionally and financially.

**Q: What makes you tick? What motivates you to go forward each day?**

A: Since the first day I started at Balmoral Hall as a classroom teacher, I believed in everything the School represented. B.H. has a wonderful sense of history and also provides opportunities girls could not receive elsewhere. I am proud to represent B.H. and help the School go forward.

It is the students who motivate me on a daily basis. Every day, I think about how lucky we are to have a student body who is here to learn and are enthusiastic about all aspects of school life. We have to make this the most rewarding experience that they can possibly have — each and every day they are at Balmoral Hall School. I believe that I have been very fortunate to be able to represent the School as Head of School. B.H. has given me the opportunity, as a woman, to show that women are capable people.



# Teamwork Approach For Superior Results

**T**here is a saying that the letters T-E-A-M of the word team stand for : Together Everyone Achieves More. In her first year as Head of School, Diane Bieber has taken this concept and applied it to the administrative organization structure. Mrs. Bieber has created a unified team to meet the needs of the students and achieve the objectives of the School. Team leaders are Maxine Chubaty, Heather Westdal, Judith Steek and Sharon Vogel.

**Maxine Chubaty**, Director of Middle/Senior School - Academics, and **Heather Westdal**, Director of Middle/Senior School - Student Programs, will work closely to direct a well-rounded program which prepares young women for university. **Judith Steek**, Director of Junior School, will ensure that a warm, caring environment is in place to challenge JK to Grade 6 students in all areas of school life. **Sharon Vogel**, Director of Development and Marketing, will enhance the School in areas of marketing, communications, fundraising and public relations, working closely with parents, students and staff.

Leadership team members share their view of their roles:

**Maxine Chubaty - Director of Middle/Senior School - Academics**

*Maxine joined the B.H. family this summer, with a long and successful career track as a teacher and administrator. During the past 15 years, Maxine has worked to liaise and create partnerships with business and industry to enrich the educational experiences of students. She is currently working on a masters thesis, pertaining to the marketing of independent schools for young women.*

"At B.H., the staff has woven a rich tapestry of experiences which embrace academics, the arts, study of languages,

debating, community service and athletics. By weaving in internships for students, and by developing partnerships with other organizations and by tapping the wealth of expertise of the parent body, we can further enrich students' experiences. Preparation for post-secondary education is important as is guiding students in the development of a diverse skill base that will serve them well in life."

**Heather Westdal, Director of Middle/Senior School - Student Programs**

*Joining B.H. in 1984 as a parent and a physical education specialist, Heather began her administrative role in 1993 as Community Service Coordinator and Head of Student Activities. Heather's current position, which includes overseeing staff as well as programs, began this Fall. Heather draws her expertise from a varied background, having taught many levels in several locales, including Africa.*

"My role allows me to help students enjoy success in areas in which they may not have considered becoming actively involved. It's satisfying to know I can make a difference in a student's life. I also enjoy sharing my energy with the B.H. family, the outside community and charitable organizations. I believe in having a vision and then taking calculated risks to make that vision a reality."

**Judith Steek, Director of Junior School**

*Judith has been with Balmoral Hall for 11 years, first as a Junior School teacher, then as an administrator. Judith has also experienced the School as a parent. Prior to Balmoral Hall, Judith spent five years in the public school system.*

"Junior School is a place I hold very dear to my heart. I have a love and appreciation for the children, the Balmoral Hall 'family' and the warm,



*l-r: Judith Steek, Heather Westdal, Maxine Chubaty, Sharon Vogel, Diane Bieber*

happy learning environment that Balmoral Hall provides. Balmoral Hall has given me the opportunity to learn and grow as a B.H. parent, teacher, and presently as an administrator. In my roles, I have learned the importance of providing an exciting environment — one that fosters a love of learning and the education of the whole child. My vision for Junior School is to provide the best education possible, to continue to look forward and to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world with positive action."

**Sharon Vogel, Director of Development and Marketing**

*Sharon joined B.H. this Spring. She brings with her an educational background in Communications and Management Studies and 13 years of senior communications experience in the private and public sectors.*

"My work at Balmoral Hall really flows because the School is comprised of such a great combination of people, programs and activities. The School lives and breathes its "motto", *seeking better things*, and I'm pleased to advance Balmoral Hall in the areas of marketing, communications, public relations, and development. The time is ripe for our School, as the concept of a single-gender education for girls grows in popularity. I envision many ways for Balmoral Hall to develop relationships of a reciprocal nature with the community and businesses and to strengthen its role with its constituents."



# Manitoba Student Leadership Conference

**S**omething very magical happened at B.H. this September. A year ago, Heather Westdal had a vision for a special event for students and staff from B.H. and from all over Manitoba.

If she had not dreamed that B.H. could host the best Manitoba Student Leadership Conference ever, it would not have happened. The legacy of this weekend will live on for a long time at B.H.

We want to honour and thank the people who inspired and motivated so many members of the B.H. 'family' to become so involved and work so hard to learn so much, to produce an amazing conference. Together, with their vision, we made the whole thing happen.

Our thanks to all those who go ABOVE and BEYOND for B.H., Heather Westdal, Lee Anderson, Ryann Jessiman, Sarah Coyle, and thanks to all the staff and students of B.H. for their help."

by Diane Bieber,  
Head of School

The 8th Annual Manitoba Student Leadership Conference was held at Balmoral Hall School, September 20 - 22, 1996. The Student Council members of 55 high schools in Manitoba who attended this Conference were considered the leaders from their respective schools.

At first glance, one might have thought that leading cheers was a prerequisite for the Conference; however, a closer scrutiny showed that the theme was really to value oneself and thus set standards to lead one's peers. Amidst the shouting, dancing, and multi-media presentations, the 350 students and their advisors also attended speeches and workshops.

Mark Scharenbroich was the keynote speaker and he brought laughter, tears, and cheers from the students. He motivated them to keep their childhood enthusiasm, to value themselves,

## YOUTH IN UNISON ...



## ... LEADING THE WAY

and to keep their own standards rather than be led astray by others.

The students then participated in workshops to help them find better ways to build school spirit, and to lead their councils. The sessions included such varied topics, to name a few, as:

"Uniting Your Student Body" by Stew Farnell and Chad Cobbe

"Spirit, Spirit" by T'Shura Elias ('94) and Michelle Cowan ('94)

"Communication Skills" by Jock Martin

"University Challenges and Secrets of Success at University" by Sheila Simonson

"Fundraising Tips" by Garry Montgomery

"Follow Your Dreams" by Brian King

"The Internet" by John Pura, Advance Electronics

"School Yearbook" by Rachel Andres, Jostens

"How To Run A Successful Dance" by Sights and Sounds

Between workshops, students and advisors could view the 28 trade show tables set up in the Atrium. Participants could shop for fundraising

ideas, team uniforms, universities, dance music, or journal organizers.

Best of all, this conference allowed students to "let loose" in a positive manner while still learning ways to perform well in student government and in life. The most valuable part of the Conference was sharing ideas with their peers, and meeting students from other schools. The advisors were also able to experience this with special activities in the gracious atmosphere of historic Aikins House.

Heather Westdal and Lee Anderson co-chaired the Conference. They involved all Balmoral Hall staff and students, to produce an excellent event. Heather Westdal said, "this event gave students the opportunity to brainstorm, to network, and to develop leadership skills so essential to their future".



Heather Westdal and Lee Anderson  
Co-Chairs of the Manitoba Student  
Leadership Conference



# View From Within The Student Leadership Conference

by Arlene Kent, Sarah Lemoine

**A**s Balmoral Hall delegates to the Student Leadership Conference, we, along with over 300 students from all over Manitoba, flocked to the Atrium screaming out cheers and hugging each other. Each delegate was given a colourful ball of yarn called a warm fuzzy, in which you exchange one string with another person and give out hugs. We were all divided into colour groups with two or three Rainbow Rockers as our leaders. Rainbow Rockers were 30 students who served as student leaders/motivators throughout the Conference. The Rockers wore neon-striped outfits which could not be missed, and they were extraordinarily hyper-active, perpetually energizing the crowd.

The first night was kicked off with the motivational speaker, Mark Shake 'n Bake (we cannot remember his real last name). He visited the School a few years previous to this occasion and was very good. This particular evening, however, he gave a stellar performance in which the entire audience, including Mayor Susan Thompson, was laughing hysterically. He handed out helpful advice and his famous gold stars.

On the second day, everyone attended seminars, which focused on leadership skills for your school, setting and achieving personal goals and "Just Clowning Around". The day ended with a formal banquet followed by a 'Sights and Sounds' dance organized by the super-spirited Phil and Ward. Sunday was the final and most difficult day. It was time to say goodbye after a short assembly with skits and cheers. The Conference was nothing short of a complete success!

Quotes from conference participants:

"The Rainbow Rockers were really enthusiastic, hyper, and gave our group

some great ideas to bring back to our school." (student)

"Mark (Shake 'n Bake) was totally awesome and so inspiring!" (student)

"Our billets really made us feel comfortable and welcome." (student)

"Really raised the level of enthusi-



*l-r: Sarah Lemoine, Arlene Kent*

asm in my kids. I hope they can carry it back with them." (advisor)

"It will be hard to top B.H.!" (advisor)

"Hats off to Heather, Lee and supporting cast of Balmoral Hall for a great Conference weekend!" (advisor)

*Right: Elizabeth Bonnett and Joan Hutton shop the Trade Show*

*Below: Her Worship Mayor Susan Thompson, Cyril Labman (Chairman of the Board of Governors), Diane Bieber (Head of School) share a moment with the "Rainbow Rockers" l-r (back) Danica Levy, Ryann Jessiman, Kristin Westdal, Rena Sharfe (front) Parul Singh, Heather Hrousalas, Jill Voht*





# CATS

## “Journey to Felinity”

*by Rachel Schipper*



*The Cast of “CATS”*

**I**t all began in June, of last year, when preliminary auditions were held after an exciting year with Beverly Aronovitch as the new Drama and Music teacher at Balmoral Hall. Shortly after our return to school in the Fall, final auditions and rehearsal schedules were underway. It was at these auditions that the cast surprised one another with their talent and character, and that the anticipation of an

exciting musical experience was born for many cast members.

The initiation of our conversion to “CATS” took root at the weekend retreat, where we spent three days learning how to move, express ourselves, react, and sound like cats. The cast spent a lot of time around the fireplace and in the recreation hall going through the score — for the first time — and working on creative and impro-

visational techniques. We also spent time getting to know each other: playing on the trampoline, talking over meals, exploring the camp, and even initiating our own dance. Perhaps one of the greatest benefits of being a part of “CATS” was that students of different grades and social groups who might not have become friends, had the opportunity to work together and get to know one another.



After the retreat the hard work began. Vocal parts were learned, choreography was set, characters began to develop, and we began to work together as a unit. Through the perseverance and dedication of the directors, cast and crew, "CATS" began to take shape. Now, anyone in the performing arts will tell you that the initial "shape" and final product of any performance bear little resemblance to one another. However, the materialization of the vision inspires and motivates through the work and frustration accompanying any challenge.

In January, after Mrs. Sammons' thorough search for the perfect space, rehearsals moved to the infamous "warehouse". Located in St. Boniface Industrial Park, the cast (and parents, no doubt eager to drive) set out equipped with sleeping bags, a food supply, and numerous layers of clothes to battle the white-out. We came in from the storm to find an incredible set. Although this was exciting, it also meant that it was necessary to reset much of the choreography — which one is somewhat less than thrilled to do after five months of rehearsal. In any case, opening night was getting closer, rehearsals more frequent, and excitement greater. We had come to the "final stretch", when the achievement of a goal

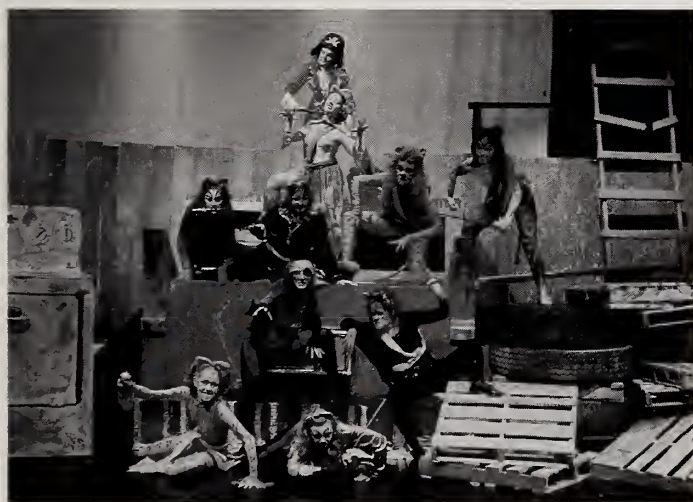
is at arm's length, and although the majority of the work is done, the push to maintain energy and enthusiasm (try singing "Jellicle Cats" five hundred times — with enthusiasm) weighs heavily on everyone. It is here where one finds oneself moving pianos in a warehouse at 11:30 at night, falling into bed after a rehearsal, not wanting to meow for two consecutive days....and here where we really pulled together.

The first time we tried on our costumes and attempted to apply cat make-up will forever be indelible in my mind. Slipping into a unitard and ears is a feat in itself, as any cast member will tell you. Imagine, if you will, the entire cast with one half of a cat face (the half painted by the make-up artist) and one half looking as though it has recently emerged from a paint war (the "other" half). The comic relief managed to outweigh the worries of the possibility that we might end up looking like dead cats. And, as we were assured by Mrs. Condra, Mrs. Hrousalas, Mrs. Aronovitch, and Mrs. Friesen, we learned.

It was not long before we moved to the Franco-Manitobain Cultural Centre, and, finally, it was opening night. We were nervous, excited, and full of anticipation to present a show that we loved and had put so many

hours of work into. What happened next is what makes all of the time and effort so rewarding: we let go. I hope it looked like we were having fun because we were! It is an amazing feeling to work hard, learn something well, and get such a fabulous response from a supportive audience. Parents, friends, siblings, and teachers were overwhelming in their support and enthusiasm, making this one of the most successful productions B.H. has ever seen.

There were so many contributors to this show. Among them were Susan Sammons, the Producer, who likely didn't breathe from September to January; our talented Accompanist, Wes Elias; Brenda Gorlick, the Choreographer; Costume Designers Mrs. Hrousalas, Mrs. Condra, and Mrs. Friesen; Mrs. Greenhill and the many student make-up assistants; the amazing crew, including Stage Manager, Sarah Wehrle, Ginny May, Mr. Cain, and Ms. Bonnett; Danny Carroll and the Band, and, of course, my dear friend and our Director, Beverly Aronovitch, without whom the production would not have been possible. Thank you all on behalf of the entire cast, who will likely be making involuntary cat noises, at least until the next show.



*l-r: (top) Joanna Manning, Erin Essery (third row) Sarah Coyle, Rachel Corrin, Heather Dawson, Kristin Westdal (second row) Amanda Bourdon, Garrity Hill (front) Heather Hrousalas, Sarah Crowther*



*l-r: (back) Sarah Coyle, Kim Lazareck, Andrea Baer (front) Sarah Crowther, Sarah Carter, Amanda Bourdon*



# "See Saw"

*by Aynsley Baldwin*

I don't think that any of us could believe it. Here we were, bowing before the audience on the night of our final performance of "See Saw". It was over. The months of preparation had finally come together for the finished product. The character study, costume fitting, set designing, the seemingly endless Sunday rehearsals, conflicts in opinion on everything from "how should Adam shape Paige's bra?" to "how can Shauna be made into a moveable mannequin?" became well worth the effort on that night. And to top it all off, it was my birthday!

Through all of this, the Grade 9's learned a lot about acting and a lot about each other. "See Saw" was an especially good play for us because it was written by a Winnipegger about people who were almost our own age confronting problems that we all face. We could all identify with at least one aspect of a character's personality whether we played that character or not. I think the audience could relate with the characters too.

Another thing that made "See Saw" very interesting to do was that some of us played more than one role. Some of us played male roles, some played adults and some did all three. So, performing "See Saw" was never boring.

We didn't only get to perform "See Saw". We also got to see some plays by other schools when we went to the Prairie Theatre Exchange for a day. We performed the first act of "See Saw", saw a number of other plays, went to workshops and got a chance to be educated. It turned out that one of the educators played Josh in the original production of "See Saw" at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People. We learned what other students had done.

The fact that "See Saw" was so close to exams made it especially challenging, but I think that made every-



*l-r: (back) Johanna Murray, Shauna Jessiman, Miranda Kowalec (front) Zena Adam, Joanna Forster, Kara Moddemann, Catherine Abbott-Taylor, Aynsley Baldwin*

one a little prouder to be able to say, "I did it and I did it at the most hectic time of year".

"See Saw" was hours of hard work on behalf of the cast, the directors, the

set and costume designers, the stage managers, and the technicians. It meant many sacrifices for a lot of us, but I can't wait to do it again this year.

# "Oliver"

*by Kelsey Mills*



*l-r: (back) Carla Goncalo, Karly Sullivan, Natalie Priest, Christine Yurkowski, Sarah Gravelines (front) Kelsey Mills, Renata Choptiany, Amanda Baldwin, Jennifer Yamamoto, Abbie Bajon, Anna AbouZeid*

Last May all of the Grade 7's participated in the production "Oliver". This musical was a huge success for the Theatre Arts Program in that it was held at the Gas Station Theatre and the cast of "Oliver" was sensational.

Amanda Baldwin led the cast as Oliver and did a magnificent job. Natalie Priest did an excellent job as the fatherly Fagan. The two Dodgers, Jennifer Yamamoto and Renata Choptiany were wonderful as Oliver's

good friends. Nancy and Bette were played brilliantly by Sarah Gravelines and Amanda Schimnowski. Fagan's boys did an awesome job, as did the market people and the street boys. The cast was incredible!

We would like to thank all of the cast and the technicians, but the biggest thanks goes to Erin Essery, Mr. Elias and, of course, Mrs. Aronovitch, who was a wonderful Director/Producer! All of these people made the story of "Oliver" come alive and it was a smash hit!



# "Tom Sawyer"

by Phyllis Ilavsky, Junior School Music Director

A highlight of third term was the musical production of our very own B.H. adaptation of the classic story, "Tom Sawyer". It was amazing what the 40 Grade 6 girls accomplished during a very intense three week rehearsal schedule.

Pyper Rouse, as Tom, was the star of the show with her dynamic stage presence and clear singing voice. Outstanding performances by Caleigh Rykiss (Huck), Kalyn Bomback (Aunt Polly), Maya Oppenheimer (Mary), Rebecca Coish (Sid), Cassie Smit (Becky), Jillian Newfield (Joe), and Aliza Sharfe (Ben) assisted an energetic and confident cast of townspeople and children to create two outstanding evenings of entertainment for their families and friends.

Highlights included the boys' fence painting scene ("Paint the Town"), the graveyard scene with its eerie skeleton dance and the 'bad guys' - Black Jack (Kara-Lee Turner), Doc Robinson (Amber Bewza) and Muff Potter (Robin Hamilton) - singing the jazzy song "Money, Money, Money", the



*l-r: Pyper Rouse, Caleigh Rykiss, Jillian Newfield*

cave scene ("Echo Song") and the interrupted funeral scene ("Hallelujah! Let the Good Times Roll").

Special thanks to our pianist, Helen Black, the Choreographer, Pat Hunter. Kudos to the Grade 6 teachers, Judy Christie and Ann Piercy, and the entire Junior School staff for their contribution and assistance with costumes, sets, props, publicity, ticket sales, lighting, sound and all the other details that make a production a success. What a team! Congratulations on another great show!



*The cast of "Tom Sawyer"*

## The Adventures of Shirley Holmes

As Canadians turn on their TV sets to watch the female sleuth series, "The Adventures of Shirley Holmes", they will be watching Grade 7 students from Balmoral Hall School wearing their School uniform. The students are working as "extras" on the set of this 13-part, youth oriented mystery series, being filmed in Winnipeg by Credo Entertainment Group.

The hero, Shirley Holmes, is the fictional great-grandniece of the legendary detective, Sherlock Holmes. Each episode will have clues to a mystery which young viewers will try to solve along with Shirley.

The Grade 7s have been having a wonderful time filming the television show. To quote Amanda Salaam, "Being in 'The Adventures of Shirley Holmes' has been one of the best experiences of my life! I have had so much fun and we got to meet different people from different TV shows. We had to wear our Number 1s, except for when we were filming the picnic scene. We did a lot of different things such as auditorium scenes, cafeteria scenes, picnic scenes, etc. I even made friends with the star of the show, Meredith Henderson, who plays the role of Shirley Holmes. The best part was that we got paid!" Watch for the series early next year on YTV in February!



*Grade 7 "extras" for the filming of "The Adventures of Shirley Holmes"*

# World Debate and Public Speaking Championships

by Aylia Mohammadi

I have always felt that Canada is the best country in the world in which to live. And this year at the World Public Speaking and Debating Championships, my feeling was not only reinforced, but also augmented. Of course, I met amazing people from countries all over the world, but, amidst the war in Cyprus, the turmoil in Israel, and, yes, the beef in Britain, Canada emerged as the most revered country at the tournament.

The World Public Speaking and Debating Championships were held this year in Reading, England, from March 23 - 27. Approximately 50 competitors from Canada, U.S., Argentina, Pakistan, Israel, Cyprus, Botswana, Australia, Wales, England, and Northern Ireland, competed in this tournament held at Reading Blue Coat School, in honour of its 350th anniversary. The competition itself included five categories: Debating, Interpretive Reading, Impromptu Speaking, Persuasive Speaking, and After Dinner Speaking. The first three categories are compulsory and the competitors have to choose to do either Persuasive or After Dinner. We competed in each of our four rounds twice in regular rounds, over two days. Although the competition schedule was heavy, it was also very relaxed. There would be an hour between each round, so we might take tea. We also travelled to Oxford on the 25th and, while there, we held our own version of the Oscars. The tournament was organized by a student in Lower VI (Grade 12) who attended the school, and he assured that we got our fill of the pubs and night clubs. Essentially, all the competitors were able to sense the true, English experience in its entirety.

Beforehand, Mr. and Mrs. Martin had taken me to London for a couple of days. Here, we met up with some

other competitors, and did some sight-seeing. It was amazing; we not only saw the historical sights, but also all the stores where the newest fashions were being sold. London, like the rest of England, was incredible.

In the competition, I made the Impromptu, Persuasive, and Debating finals, as well as the Persuasive and Debating Grand Finals. I ended up placing First in Persuasive, Fourth in Debating, and Eighth Overall. All the credit is due to Mrs. Martin, who not

only coached me, but kept me going through round after round, especially when I thought that I had had enough; and to Mrs. Greenhill, who bravely sat through hundreds of renditions of my persuasive speech, until it was finally perfected.

The Worlds was an extraordinary experience. I met many people, and saw many things. Although I am sad that it is over, I know that I will hold the memories of this trip dear to me, for the rest of my life.



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*Aylia Mohammadi displaying the trophies she won at the World Debate and Public Speaking Championships at Reading Blue Coat School, Reading, England*

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## Public Speakers Place Third Internationally

At the International Independent Schools Public Speaking Competition held in Toronto, Oct. 23 to Oct. 28, 1996, the Balmoral Hall School Team of Sarah Carter, Heather Hrousalas, Mira Novek and Kristin Westdal placed third team out of 43 teams from three continents. Only two schools—one from England and one from British Columbia—placed ahead of them. Sarah Carter was the Top Junior Speaker and will now join the 1997 Canadian Team at the World Debate and Public Speaking Championships in England.



# Advanced Placement (AP) A Privilege

*by Monica Lawrence*



I remember the Alamo! Walt Disney's Davy Crockett (AKA Fess Parker) introduced me to the site of San Antonio, Texas, long before I could distinguish between legend and life. More recently, I remember that it was certainly A Privilege to accept an appointment at Trinity College, in San Antonio. I was one of seven Canadians, among 684 faculty consultants, whom the Princeton College Board had invited to the 1996 Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Reading.

On May 8th, our own Erin Essery, Jennifer Fultz and Françoise Vouriot were three of approximately 500,000 exceptional students, world-wide, who had chosen to write the AP Literature and Composition Exam. As always, I was more APprehensive than my students. Had I adequately prepared them to perform well? What could I learn, from this year's essay topics and from each student's feedback, that would improve my teaching?...but, may I digress? I am simply delighted with the success of every Balmoral Hall student who wrote the 1996 AP Examinations!

Now, to resume my suspenseful chronology. I have no fear of flying. Even so, at 7:30 a.m., June 11th, I was airborne — en route to Trinity College — and I was afraid:

1. I don't go out much. Should I be concerned about survival, in a strange land?
2. Where would I eat and sleep? What would I eat? How well would I sleep?
3. Would my conscientious endeavour to master the expectations of each

essay question, known only since May 8th, be sufficient? To which essay would I be assigned?

4. Could I do justice to each student's response? Would I have time to fairly assess every essay?
5. How valid was the Reading process? Who would monitor the accuracy of my Reading?
6. Would this experience benefit Balmoral Hall School?

Gratefully, all of my fears were unfounded.

The Educational Testing Service, in association with Trinity College, had entirely anticipated my survival needs. Food was bountiful and well-balanced. (But, not as taste-tempting as yours, Carol. Your exclusion of grits, from the B.H menu, is a wise decision.) Accommodation in Trinity College's expansive dormitories was comfortably private, but for shared washroom facilities with one other faculty consultant. Indeed, having rigorously read from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (June 12 - June 17) all of us slept soundly. Only one dorm (not mine) spent a sleepless night when the air-conditioning malfunctioned; no joke at 97°. (Everyone speaks Fahrenheit, in Texas.)

At 7:00 a.m., on June 12th, our essay assignments were posted. I was to read the most challenging and thought-provoking answers to Question 3. Here was the single essay in which students were encouraged to express their knowledge of literature that had been taught. The theme was "happy endings" that involve "spiritual reassessment or moral reconciliation". Students had been advised to identify

and explain the significance of such an ending: "You may select a work from the list (of 30 texts) below, or another novel or play of literary merit".

By 8:30 a.m., I was seated beside a Table Leader, at a table of eight, in an auditorium which contained 240 readers of Question three. All of us walked through a comprehensive rubric of grading criteria. Then, we read and assigned marks to a selection of previously-graded sample responses. Next, we discussed any discrepancies in grading. None of us began to read actual essays until we could agree upon consistent expectations that were fair to students and to enriched university entrance. Moreover, throughout the 6-day session, we continued to assess and discuss sample essays: at 8:30 a.m., after our a.m. break, after lunch, and after our p.m. break.

I was even further assured about the validity of my own Reading because the Table Leader virtually read over my shoulder, during the first two days. Both of us needed to be certain that I was grading papers competently. I was also relieved to know that, if any of us met with an essay about a novel or play which we had not researched, the paper would be offered to someone who was better informed.

In fact, upon my return, I feel "better informed" about a community that strives to actualize each individual's potential for excellence! (I also apologize to my peers who will be dismayed to learn that The Davy Crockett, of our childhood fantasy, has become a commercial hotel.)



# Kindergarten Gross Motor Program

*by Darlene Sveinson*

**O**ur full day, five days a week Kindergarten program is the only one of its kind in Winnipeg, and it sets the right course for girls and boys who are ready for a full day of school. Caring, dedicated teachers provide a warm, safe environment for accelerated learning. We also have an Extended Day Program, with before and after school care.

If someone were to follow the music up to the Junior School Gym any Day 3 afternoon, one would find a gym full of equipment specifically arranged in a variety of stations, a group of active Kindergarten students maneuvering their way through, over, in, under and along the set apparatus. Three International students caringly demonstrating, motivating and encouraging the "Tykes in Training" and one Phys. Ed. Teacher facilitating the show. Welcome to the Balmoral Hall Kindergarten Gross Motor Program.

The program is part of the Kindergarten Physical Education Program and is designed to provide the students with regular opportunities to practice specific gross motor skills under the guidance of their Phys. Ed. Teacher, Mrs. Sveinson, and her three International assistants, Namiko Konuma, Wakako Tateishi, and Momoko Mizoguchi, Grade 10 and 11 students here from Japan.

The Kindergarten students practice skills such as hopping, skipping, jumping, rolling, climbing over, crawling under, static and dynamic balance, ball bouncing, tossing, rope jumping and equipment manipulation. The program helps the student to develop body awareness and coordination, movement control, muscular strength and endurance, eye-hand coordination, aim, and basic movement skills required for later transfer into sport-specific activities.



*l-r: (back) Madison Lee, Darragh O'Conner, Chelsea Chimilar, Ericka Rankin-Friesen, Wakako Tateishi; (front) Jenny Cameron, David Hester*

Namiko, Wakako and Momoko are assisting with the Kindergarten Gross Motor Program as part of their Community Service Program. The girls' enthusiastic assistance adds greatly to the development of the Kindergartens' skills. One note of warning...never challenge one of our Kindergarten students to a contest of "walking-while-balancing-a-beanbag-on-your-head-then-dropping-it-in-a-bucket-without-using-your-hands!" It just wouldn't be fair.

*l-r: Momoko Mizoguchi, Meghan Kenyon, Patrick Li*





# New President Has Long Association with Balmoral Hall

I feel lucky, in my life, for so many reasons. One is the fact that my parents supported independent schools and single-sex education. This was always quite a commitment, as I am the eldest of six girls. We have a total of 50 school years at Balmoral Hall between us, as my parents were B.H. parents for 15 years. I came to Balmoral Hall in Grade 9 and graduated in 1978. The atmosphere of encouragement and small class size enabled me to develop individual relationships with my teachers. I was able to develop both my math talents and my artistic talents. During these four years, I participated in drama productions, credit art classes, and math competitions. It was an environment where I could develop leadership skills and public speaking ability. B.H. gave me the first opportunity to test them out as Ballater House Head, in Grade 11.

After Balmoral Hall, I attended Queen's University receiving a B.A. in Economics. After approaching my career from the sales angle, I realized that my true calling was in accounting. While working at the "Winnipeg Sun", I went back to school at night and received my CGA in 1991. During this period I married Bob Thiessen and had my daughter, Bridget. My son, Cooper, came along 3 years later. Bridget is almost 8 and Cooper is 5.

I have been in my current position for almost seven years now. I am the Business Manager/Comptroller at The Family Centre of Winnipeg, a large social service agency funded by the United Way and the Province of Manitoba. I am also very involved in the Junior League and the Alumnae Association.

Many things which I learned at Balmoral Hall have helped me develop and grow as a person. Strangely, having been in an all-girl environment during school has given me a sense of "per-



*Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen, ('78)  
President, Alumnae Association*

sonhood". I think of myself not as a woman but as a person.

As I had sisters at Balmoral Hall for nine years after I graduated, I never lost touch with the School. I also know many women in the graduating classes that came after mine. When Linda (Leach) Radcliffe ('63) was resurrecting the Alumnae Association and planning Reunion '86, my family was living next



*Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen ('78) at her Balmoral Hall graduation, photographed with her sisters. Amy ('87), Cory ('81), Elizabeth ('84), Catherine ('78), Christy ('79) and Patti ('83)*

door. Naturally, Christy and I got involved in the list update. After supporting a few dinners and other events, I was asked to join the Alumnae Board.

I look forward to representing the Alumnae in the school community, to meeting more women who have made marks in the community and to welcoming the new graduates to the Alumnae Association.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, December 22	Christmas Party - 1986 - 1996 Grads 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Aikins House
Tuesday, April 29, 1997	Toronto
Wednesday, April 30, 1997	"All Schools Reunion" Montreal
Sunday, May 4, 1997	May Brunch for 1997 Grads and anniversary years (1987, 1977, 1967, 1957, 1947, 25 years - class of 1972) Atrium

Do you wish to organize a reunion weekend for your class?  
Call the Alumnae Office at  
1-204-784-1615 and we will help



# Christmas Party

Thanks to the excellent organization of T'Shura Elias ('94), the annual Christmas Party was a great success. Head of School, Diane Bieber, hosted the party for the graduates of the past 10 years. Everyone met in Aikins House to greet old friends, to compare universities, and to renew friendships. Join us this year on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22** from 7:30 until 9:30 p.m. for the 1996 Christmas Party.



Top left: l-r: Class of 1995; l-r: (back) Shauna Labman, Maria Reimer (front) Brandi Donald, Megan Sweatman, Jennifer Bermissa and daughter, Rebecca Lechman

Middle left: Class of 1990; l-r: (back) Maya Prabhu, Dani Rice, Ardyth DeFehr ('91), Lauri Tanner, Lauren Hershfield (front) Karen Shanski, Heather Jessiman

Bottom left: Joelle Foster-Balaksis ('86), Sandy McInnes ('87), Alex Buechel ('91)

Top right: Class of 1988; l-r: Christine McInnes, Christine Hinchliffe, Jennifer Buechel-Gauvin

Bottom right: Class of '94; l-r: Michelle Clarke, Mary-Beth Barker, Talia Hussain, T'Shura Elias



# May Brunch

The Annual Meeting and Brunch of the Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association occurred on Sunday, May 5, 1996. The Annual Meeting was held in historic, gracious Aikins House. A new Executive was elected with Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen ('78) as the new President.

The May Brunch was a festive event in the Atrium. Everyone visited and laughed with friends and managed to chase away the gloom of the long winter. Thank you to Maria (Clark) Lysack ('82) and her committee, for a successful event.



Top left: Diane Sidebottom-Roulston ('83) presents the President's Pin to new President, Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen ('78)

Middle Left: The Class of '66; Susan Bracken, Teddi (Wheeler) Sweatman, Elaine (Golumbia) Stitz, Ditte (Lansky) Cloutier

Bottom Left: The Class of '71; Liz (Moden) Corbett, Connie Kucharczyk, Cynthia Lone

Top right: '96 Graduates and Staff; (back) Joelle Moon, Heather Dawson, Rachel Schipper, Nina Battison, Stephanie Thorn, Wendy Campbell, Raphi Labman, Sunita Seshia, Lee Anderson (front) Teresa Friesen, Maike Dammermann, Terry (Baillie) Fulton, Kay Condra, Audrey Greenhill

Bottom right: Susan (Graham) Scott ('81), T'Shura Elias ('94), Tannis (Leach) Nuttall ('83), Heather Westdal (Staff), Aynsley (Hinchliffe) Cockshutt ('83), Christine Hinchliffe ('88), Maria (Clark) Lysack ('82), Jackie Cantin ('83)

## ALUMNAE EXECUTIVE (1996/97)

Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen ('78), <i>President</i>	Jacqueline Cantin ('83)
Diane Sidebottom-Roulston ('80), <i>Past President</i>	Christine Hinchliffe, ('88)
Tannis (Leach) Nuttall, ('83), <i>Vice-President</i>	Debbie Metcalfe ('76)
T'Shura Elias, ('94), <i>Secretary</i>	Shelley Muir ('81)
Maria (Clark) Lysack, ('82), <i>Treasurer</i>	Susan (Graham) Scott ('81)
Lyn Stephen ('57), <i>Archivist</i>	<i>Alumnae Annual Giving</i>
	Karen Shanski ('90)
	Signy Stewart, ('74)



# All Schools Reunion Vancouver

Thursday, February 29th, saw Canadian Independent Schools sharing an "All Schools Reunion" at York House School in Vancouver, B.C. Balmoral Hall Alumnae were invited to an evening of greeting old friends from their school and all independent schools across Canada. A great time was had by all, as the pictures show. April 30, 1997 will see us in Montreal. Plan to join us!



Top left: Rupert's Land; Jacqui (Bend) Allen ('45), Betty Cotterell ('46), Susan (Clifford) Allen ('49)  
Middle left: Pamela Pigden ('85), Pat Storey ('83), Maria Lutz ('85), Jill (Munro) Howes ('85)  
Bottom left: Class of '69; Karen (Collins) Cameron, Laurie (Myers) MacDonell, Susan Hogman  
Top right: Monica Barabinoff ('83), Lynn (Premachuk) Braun ('82), Shideh Khorasheh ('82)  
Bottom right: Class of '62; Linda (Miller) Martin, Elsie (Shandro) Smith, Merrill Shepherd (S.J.R. '61), Joey Kerr, Jackie (Lye) Rohen, Betty (Nickel) McKay



# Students and Alumnae Enjoy 10 Year Reunion

**T**annis (Steiman) Scott and Jill Condra are graduates from the class of 1986. They were the driving force behind the successful weekend reunion of their classmates on September 27 and 28.

Friday began at Balmoral Hall with a special uplifting reunion assembly. The graduates, carrying their dolls, were piped into the Richardson gymnasium by the Heather Belle Pipe Band; Jill Condra (Head Girl, 1986) and Tamara (Moore) Sabad (Head of Residence, 1986) spoke to the students about "life at B.H. in the '80's!" This was followed by coffee in the Kozminski Common Room and tours of the School. The '86 Grads went to classes on the tour and were gleefully quizzed by today's students, which was enlightening for everyone.

Later in the day, the '86 Graduates and their teachers met for lunch in Aikins House. Former faculty (who could not attend) sent messages, while those attending enjoyed the stories and anecdotes of remembrances.

Friday evening, the Graduates met for dinner and enjoyed being reacquainted. On the Saturday evening, the Graduates plus their "significant others" attended a buffet dinner in Aikins House. They talked, laughed, and talked until after 10:00 p.m. when they realized that they still had to eat dessert at Tannis (Steiman) Scott's home - a sure sign that everyone was enjoying the event.

What did they discover? That the world changes, but friendships do not, and that your school friends are special.



*Grads of '86 and "significant others" at Aikins House*



*I-r: (back) Nancy Ellis, Tamara (Moore) Sabad, Jill Condra, Stephanie Smith, Ruth (Morris) Hermann  
(front) Josephine (Kati) Wong, Tannis (Steiman) Scott, Carolyn (Seale) Scholz, Kristine Banerjee*

*Some of the dolls of the 1986  
Graduates*



# "Still Friends" 25th Reunion

**T**he class of 1971 held their 25th Reunion (June 22 and 23, 1996) in Winnipeg, visiting Balmoral Hall School and Aikins House. They were able to contact all but two graduates from their class and assembled the class to celebrate 25 years of life after Balmoral Hall.

To quote Cynthia Lone (one of the organizers along with Connie Kucharczyk and Liz (Moden) Corbett) — "It was amazing to feel the years slip away after only two minutes into a conversation with someone you had not seen in 25 years. Our class may be spread around the globe, but the ties that connect us seem to be more real than ever. The late night phone calls to California (my preferred location site for the 30th), from the hotel room, was clearly reminiscent of residence just before lights out. I was amazed at the diversity of beliefs, experiences, and knowledge we have as a group, and yet, the trust and faith we had in each other, 25 years ago, remains to this day."

Allyson (Treleaven) Hannaford felt that "we all had a good time and it was fun to relive so many happy memories. I was amazed at the fact that so many of us looked so much the same! I wonder if I'll say that at our 50th reunion!! I sure hope we can do it again in the next few years."

Helen Hay added that "I really enjoyed reconnecting with everyone and feel it offered each of us an opportunity to honour that piece of our lives we shared at Balmoral. I hope we can all meet again for our 30th."

Having shared their tenth and twenty-fifth reunions together, these graduates share a special part of Balmoral Hall history and have retained special friendships that are very important in life. We salute you!



*25th Reunion (1996)*

*(l-r) (back) Shirley Claydon, Mary Martyn, Helen Hay, Connie Kucharczyk, Liz (Moden) Corbett, Elizabeth (Haworth) Hatherell, Janet Nutter, Cynthia Lone (front) Emily (Smith) Ternette, Allyson (Treleaven) Hannaford, Sylvia (Ronceray) Oosterveen, Mary (Weswell) Hanson*



*10th Reunion (1981)*

*(l-r) (front) Sylvia (Ronceray) Oosterveen, Allyson (Treleaven) Hannaford, Leslie (LuQui) McKerrow, Emily (Smith) Ternett (middle) Kathy Burch, Cynthia Lone, Margaret (Burns) Clarke, Helen Hay (back) Jean (Forrest) Valiant, Elizabeth (Moden) Corbett, Mary Martyn, Connie Kucharczyk*



Suzanne E. Lount  
11 - 1800 Wellington Crescent  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
R3P 2E7

October, 1996

Dear Alums:

One year ago last January, I accepted the responsibility of Honourary Chair of the Balmoral Hall "Enriching Her Tomorrows" Campaign. We set out to raise \$2.2 million dollars. As I write this letter we are half a million short.

We have all worked very diligently to achieve our goal and we have had an enormous input from a great many people. I am, however, somewhat disappointed in the response from the Alumnae and so I am writing this, my last letter to you, regarding this Campaign.

I want you all to take a moment to think seriously about what Balmoral Hall, Rupert's Land, Riverbend or Havergal, did for us when we were very young and what it is still doing for students today as one of the premier girls' private schools in Canada. It gave us all our privileged start in life. Education is the one thing we can give a child that no one can ever take away.

Please help me to see this wonderful School into the twenty-first century so that it will be there for our children, their children and generations thereafter.

You can help do this by sponsoring a theatre chair in our Theatre/Performing Arts Centre building. Sponsors will see their names engraved on a brass plaque affixed to the chair. It is a wonderful way to show your School that you care. You can sponsor a chair for \$1,000.00 with annual payments over five years. It works out to \$200.00 per year or \$17.00 per month. You could even share a chair, with a daughter, a sister or friend. Please help us finish up our job by filling out the form on this page and Balmoral Hall will be forever grateful and so will I.

Yours very sincerely,

*Suzie Lount*

Suzie (Banfield) Lount, B.H. '55

## *Yes! I Want to Buy a Theatre Seat!*

For a minimum gift of \$1,000 you will receive a lasting acknowledgement of your support.

Your name or the name of your choice will appear on a theatre seat in the new Theatre/Performing Arts Centre.

In support of the Capital Campaign for the benefit of providing new and improved facilities at Balmoral Hall School,

I/WE subscribe a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable: ☐ Annually ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Quarterly ☐ Monthly  
instalments beginning on \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year) and payable over a \_\_\_\_\_ year period.

Other Arrangements: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Enclosed is my cheque, made payable to Balmoral Hall School OR Please charge my: ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Bus.) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish your name to remain anonymous: ☐ yes ☐ no

Name as you would like it to appear in recognition at Balmoral Hall: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all cheques payable to: **Balmoral Hall School**, 630 Westminster Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3C 3S1  
All gifts are tax deductible to the full extent provided by the law. Charitable Registration Number 0258624-20-21

# The DPPE Story

*by Susan Bracken ('66)*

**M**ore than 14 years ago, it was my great good fortune to become the nurse of Dr. Lorne Brandes at the Manitoba Cancer Foundation, keeping track of his patients in the clinic and giving chemotherapy treatments. After several years, my job description somehow expanded (presumably under the clause "other duties as assigned") to include injecting mice and donating my blood for experiments. So it was that about six years ago, armed with promising results in lab animals and a license from the Health Protection Branch in Ottawa, Dr. Brandes asked me to be his research nurse in trials testing DPPE in humans.

DPPE is the abbreviation for the long chemical name of a novel antihistamine-like drug synthesized by Dr.

Brandes at the Department of Cell Biology located at the Cancer Foundation. It is given intravenously with standard chemotherapy drugs. Our clinical trials have confirmed the animal data, showing that DPPE can increase the effectiveness of a number of chemotherapy while decreasing some of the side effects, such as low blood counts and hair loss. Over the past 5-1/2 years, we have treated close to 200 patients with various types of advanced cancers, giving more than 2,000 treatments. Results with breast, prostate and bowel cancers, lymphomas and some sarcomas have been promising; so much so, that a multi-centre trial for advanced breast cancer patients was begun in May 1996 under the auspices of the National Cancer Institute of Canada (NCIC).

September, 1996, saw another momentous event when a licensing agreement was signed with Bristol-Myers Squibb, who will take over the further development and distribution of DPPE.

Many people have contributed to the furthering of our research. It's been a real team effort. Financial grants, large and small, including the Sellers Murphy & Thorlakson Foundations have often meant the difference between carrying on or not. But the biggest thank you goes to the patients — the real heroes, who had the courage and selflessness to allow themselves to be "guinea pigs" with a new drug, and thereby assist us in gaining the knowledge and expertise that we have today. Their contribution will never be forgotten.

Further studies are likely in the near future and, perhaps, DPPE will one day be given early in treatment where it may have even greater benefit. It is important to remember that DPPE is still investigational and is only currently available in Winnipeg (with the exception of the NCIC trial which involves London, Hamilton and Thunder Bay).

Hopefully, this will prove to be a successful implement in our war on cancer.

## *Looking for Gifts?*

Why not think of  
The Balmoral Hall Student Store  
for crested duffle bags,  
sweatsuits and more?!

For more information, please contact  
Karen Hill.

Phone: (204) 784-1687

Fax: (204) 774-5534

## *Grads of 1996 Give Back To The School*

The graduating class of 1996 was a class of strong individuals who strove to bring about changes at Balmoral Hall School. To quote Head Girl, Nina Battison, in her Valedictory Address, "Our class has been one to begin new traditions in the School. I'm very glad to say that, as a parting gift to the School, our class has purchased the first theatre seat in the Theatre/Performing Arts Centre, which is scheduled to be built in April of 1997. A plaque bearing the inscription "Class of '96" will be placed on this seat. We hope this gift will be a lasting memory of our graduating class."

A memorable gift from a memorable class!



# Survey of Graduates

## *Most Would Send Their Own Daughters to B.H.*

Thank you to the Balmoral Hall Graduates from 1987 to 1994 who replied to our survey about life during and after Balmoral Hall. Your replies help us to plan our curriculum and educational philosophy for the future. Your replies were most interesting and constructive. Included are some of the results for you to see how others replied to the survey:

**Question:** What are your overall impressions of Balmoral Hall?  
**Answers:** "felt B.H. had made a difference in their lives."  
"B.H. had a proud tradition and traditional rules of conduct — need more B.H. pride."  
"gave students confidence to be anything they wanted."  
"study skills learned have helped at university."  
"excellent environment in which to become a young woman."  
"School becoming too large — worried about losing "family" atmosphere."

**Question:** Would you consider B.H. for your child?  
**Answers:** Overwhelmingly - "Yes"

**Question:** Why would you consider B.H. for your child?  
**Answers:** "Personal, individual attention"  
"safe environment"  
"strong academic background"  
"encourages involvement in all aspects of school and community life"

**Question:** In comparison to B.H., how did you fare in university/college or graduate school?  
**Answer:** Most stated "the same" or "better".

**Question:** Was university your first experience away from home?  
**Answer:** The majority said 'no'.

**Question:** While at B.H., were you well advised on the variety of university/college options available to you?  
**Answer:** The majority said 'yes'.

**Question:** Do you feel that B.H. served as an advocate to university/college on your behalf?  
**Answer:** The majority said 'yes'.

**Question:** Did you remain in your selected field as chosen at B.H. (i.e. Science or Arts).  
**Answer:** The majority said 'yes'.

**Question:** Did your residence experience assist you?  
**Answer:** The majority said 'yes'.

**Question:** How did Residence assist you?  
**Answer:** "Residence taught me discipline and gave me a controlled atmosphere for study which I needed."  
"Closer friends, easy to get homework help! Learning to live with all types and ages of people. Beginning to understand bureaucracy!"

**Question:** Do you enjoy Balmoral Hall publications?  
**Answer:** The majority said 'yes'.

**Question:** What topics would you be interested in reading more about?  
**Answer:** "more about my classmates"  
"current school activities and events so we can know what the School is like now"

# Annual Giving

Susan (Graham) Scott ('81) to Head Alumnae Annual Giving

I am both pleased and honoured to have accepted the Head position for the Fifth Alumnae Annual Giving Campaign. We need your help.

I feel very strongly that the Alumnae financially support the scholarships we so generously provide. Hopefully, you feel the same kind of responsibility as I do, and want to support the School that supported our education, growth and development. The Alumnae base grows stronger each year; so technically, that should mean this campaign should get both easier and stronger, as the years progress. Unfortunately, that is not the case, as this is an interesting period of fiscal restraint. It is more important than ever to thoughtfully choose who will receive your financial support. It is difficult to educate the public on the importance of giving. Although 83% of all Canadians donate on a regular basis, the average gift is only \$42.00. That is far below the 10% benchmark developed as a reasonable amount to give.

The good news is that, if each of you donated that amount to the Annual Giving Campaign, we would exceed our goals. I know that \$42.00 won't seem like a lot to some of you, and that same amount will seem insurmountable to others. The actual dollar figure you choose, regardless of how big or small, can make a significant difference. We ask that your gift is exemplary for you, not in relation to anyone else. We are looking for your participation and your support. Your gift will be an investment in the Balmoral Hall community. All amounts are helpful every dollar counts.

We want today's children to prepare for tomorrow and it is essential that we help them do so. Without scholarship programming, their capabilities may



never be realized. It is important that we support the children who benefit from and depend on these scholarships. The success of the scholarship program relies heavily on the commitment of its Alumnae. Devotion, such as yours, allows us to be leaders in the development of young women.

In financially supporting this Campaign, you are (once again), showing how important your B.H. education was. You are thanking the community for the opportunity you had to participate. You are showing your support and dedication to the School and its programming. You are ensuring that others will have the opportunity to participate. Whether you give to say thank you, or whether this is part of your community philanthropic support, please give...together, we can make a difference.

Striving for excellence in education is of the utmost importance. Seeking better things is paramount. Please, support the Fifth Alumnae Annual Giving Campaign.

## ANNUAL GIVING 1995 TOTAL - \$8,059.00

Thank you to everyone who continued to support Annual Giving, this year. We received 74 gifts for a total of \$8,059.00. Gifts were allocated by donors, between Annual Giving and the Capital Campaign this past year. Overall giving by Alumnae to the School increased over last year. All gifts support Balmoral Hall School, and we are pleased and thankful to have your donations.

Alumnae Annual Giving supports Alumnae Scholarships and activities of the Alumnae Association. These donors to Annual Giving have made a difference:

### HAVERGAL / FORMER STAFF

Total - \$1,320.00

Evelyn (Barrow) Best  
Nellie Lucas  
Mary Pluhar  
Brian & Jill Porter

### RIVERBEND

Total - \$875.00

Lorna (McCarthy) Berg  
Lydia (Klein) Engebretson  
Kathleen (Murray) Ford  
Margaret Jamieson  
Didi (Richard) Judge  
Jocelyn (Young) MacGibbon  
Lois (Parkhill) Mackenzie  
Joan (Harris) MacRae  
Emily (Hayes) Marshall  
Marion McCurdy  
Polly (Harris) Riley  
Dorothy (Forsyth) Sangster

### RUPERT'S LAND

Total - \$1,094.00

Louise (Pellenz) Allton  
Miriam (Baker) Blair  
Elizabeth (Holden) Buggiey  
Lucille Cubbidge  
Peggy (Musgrove) Danard  
Jean (Woodman) Fraser  
Joan (Adamson) Hunt  
Blanche (Henderson) Johnston



Marjorie (Chisholm) Johnston  
Frances (MacCharles) Jukes  
Katherine M. (Lincoln) Kendall  
Margaret (Tomkins) McDonald  
Billie (Baker) McNichol  
Jennifer (Robertson) McQueen  
Audrey (Fitzgerald) Robarts  
Evangeline (Noton) Simkins  
Amy (Best) Wadley  
Frances (Scoville) Wilson  
Elizabeth (Gemmell) Yarnell

**Balmoral Hall**

1950 - 1959

Total - \$545.00

Ann Brumell  
Mary Kaye (Simpkinson) Kurkjian  
Marlene (Musgrove) Lansdown  
Suzanne (Holland) Lount  
Pam (Garton) MacIver  
Jane (Wallace) Osterland  
Donna M. (Young) Robertson

Lyn Stephen  
L. Mary (Albertsen) Stewart  
Patricia (Moss) Weeks

1960 - 1969

Total - \$1,200.00

Shirley (Donaldson) Berlin  
Ditte (Lansky) Cloutier  
Ann (Mason) Curry  
Millie (Shandro) Fournier  
Deirdre Malone  
Rosemary (Allison) Norrie  
Signe Salzberg  
Rhonda Smerchanski  
Joanne R. Sutherland

1970 - 1979

Total - \$2,440.00

Victoria Burns-Guy  
Cynthia Lone  
Loreena McKennitt Foundation  
Diana Salter  
Signy Stewart

Catherine (Coughlin) Thiessen  
Shirley-Ann Wing

1980 - 1989

Total - \$485.00

Aynsley (Hinchliffe) Cockshutt  
Ariel Gurvey  
Angela Hilland  
Jane (Kellock) Hladky  
Maria (Clark) Lysack  
Shelley Muir  
Tannis (Leach) Nuttall  
Diane Sidebottom-Roulston  
Valerie Ternan  
Nicola (Murray) Tory

1990 - 1994

Total - \$100.00

T'Shura Elias  
Jolene Harvey  
Heather Jessiman

.....  
C R E S T L I N E S

# Where They Are, and What They're Doing

## RIVERBEND

Dorothy (Forsyth) Sangster ('36), says "Congratulations on the fine education given at the School! I follow with great interest the progress of granddaughter, Sarah Coates. I enjoyed receiving a copy of "The Portal" — it brought back many memories."

Lydia (Klein) Engebretson ('37), celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary in 1992. She has three sons with their wives and four grandchildren living within ten minutes of her home in Minnesota.

Emily (Hayes) Marshall ('38), is retired from nursing and busy with community work at her home in Saskatchewan. She has five daughters and nine grandchildren.

## RUPERT'S LAND

Barbara (Paterson) Tarr ('28) is retired and living in North Vancouver. She has three "adult" children, seven grandchildren, and three great-grand-

children. She still travels to a lake in Quebec for summer family gatherings.

Blanche (Henderson) Johnston ('35) lives in Quebec and states she is not looking forward to another referendum.

Clementina (Adamson) Bidwell ('37), travelled to Winnipeg for an Adamson Family Reunion organized by Josephine (Adamson) Milton (B.H. '52), and also attended by Joan (Adamson) Hunt ('42).

Jean (Woodman) Fraser ('41), writes, "I thoroughly enjoy reading "The Portal" and catching up on news of some classmates. It's exciting to see the growth and expansion of Balmoral — compared to my days at Rupert's Land on Carlton Street."

Amy (Best) Wadley ('45), writes from Hamilton, Ont., that Isobel (Taylor) Attrell ('45) and her husband visited her. While in Ottawa, Amy visited with Hugh Best (Grade 2 Rupert's Land "grad" '33) and Trevor Roberts (Grade 3 Rupert's Land

"grad" '33) and they reminisced about their school days.

## BALMORAL HALL

Anne Brumell ('59) writes "well do I remember tobogganing down the river bank; walking around the central drive after dinner and before our study time; practicing for the school plays and Christmas pageant; competing vigorously in sports; sneaking extra biscuits and fruit for late night snacks in our room; singing We Wish You a Merry Christmas from the halls and stairway leading to the Principal's office; always getting a helping hand from Miss Lucas, the Principal's secretary; and writing poetry for the school Yearbook. Most of all, I remember the many wonderful friends, the quality of teaching that directed me for the rest of my life (and still does), and the sadness I experienced when my family announced we were moving to



Toronto." She graduated from the University of Toronto, with honours, in Criminology. She worked as a Senior Researcher with the Supreme Court of Ontario, numerous Toronto-based law firms, the National Law Reform Commission, the John Howard Society and the Centre of Criminology at the University of Toronto. She directed a number of Community Social Service Agencies and, for the last seven years, has been the Registrar and Corporate Officer at Massey College, Toronto.

**Maureen (Ford) Coleman ('59)** just retired from 35 years of teaching in November, 1996. Most recently, she enjoyed teaching English as a Second Language. She taught many interesting people, and developed rewarding acquaintances. She looks forward to beginning her visits to the home countries of her former students before 1997. A big hello to all!!

**Shirley (Donaldson) Berlin ('60)** travels between Victoria, B.C. and London, England. She writes this year that she "met **Lori (McDougall) Walker ('60)** in a bookstore in Victoria — neither of us had changed a bit! We still travel a lot....this month Sweden, Moscow, London, Prague, then three months in Victoria." She has two granddaughters, born in 1995, and states "maybe this generation will make it back to B.H."

**Signe Salzberg ('60)** lives on Gabriola Island, B.C., where she owns Saltsea Creations. She creates air-brushed artwork on clothing and functional items, as well as on black silhouette stationery. The technique, hand-carved without the use of a screen, is called Pochair (French for "stencil") and is the older of two stencil techniques developed by fine artists in the late 19th century.

**Tannis (Armytage) Wells ('60)** is a grandmother! Her daughter, Hilary, gave birth to a baby boy.

**Patricia (Snodgrass) Barkman ('61)** and her husband, Leon, just celebrated their 30th anniversary of the day they met. They met, once again in the same place, near a youth hostel in Salzberg, Austria, where they exchanged a celebratory kiss and then went to a nearby pastry shop.

**Hazel Smith (Grade 1 teacher '62-63)** pictured here in Aikins House Library which was the former Staff

Room, lives in England and visited Balmoral Hall last May. She was hired to teach at Balmoral Hall by Miss Murrell-Wright when she was in



Britain to choose the School tartan. She has warm memories of Aikins House and the Staff Room there. She spoke fondly of Helen, and how she served the teachers morning coffee from a silver service. She asked about Miss Murrell-Wright, Miss Sharman, and Miss Lucas. After her year in Winnipeg, she returned to England where she became a teacher and, later, a consultant in Special Education.

**Elizabeth A. Clough ('64)** writes, "after long years in Toronto newspapering, I have lived a year in Oakville, and Peterborough, where I am deciding to settle more permanently and extricate myself entirely from newspapers and Confederation Life's wage-loss insurance."

**Patricia (Glover) Bovey ('66)** has written a book "A Passion for Art" published by Sono Nis Press. It is a unique look at Canadian art and at the regional, national, and international impact of a group of 17 west coast artists.

**Kathryn Neilson, Q.C. ('66)** has accepted a position teaching at the University of Victoria this Fall.

**Susan Hagman ('69)** is working in Palliative Care at the Lions Gate Hospital. She lives in North Vancouver with her husband Adrian Popp and reports that **Karen (Collins) Cameron ('69)** and **Laurie (Myers) Macdonnell ('70)** live in Vancouver as well.

**Judy (Dennis) Migel ('69)** lives in Edmonton with her husband and three children.

**Shirley-Ann Wing ('70)** is a social worker for the Department of Social Services, for the Government of Saskatchewan.

**Allyson (Treleven) Hannaford ('70)** lives in Calgary with her husband, four children and a cat. She is self-employed as a financial/accounting consultant.

**Susan Sures (former staff)** works for the Y.W.C.A. educating youth to enter the work force.

**Cynthia Lone ('71)** writes, "I returned to school in 1987 and have continued with it to this day — in college, university, and by finishing my professional accounting designation. Family and friends suggest it's not likely I'll ever stop formal education. My son is in engineering and my daughter is completing high school. I am always delighted to hear from former B.H.'ers but must admit I am more comfortable with those that have a few more wrinkles, grey hair, or additional pounds than back in high school!"

**Susan (Shellenberg) Rudd ('72)** lives in Winnipeg and is a client service representative with Royal Trust.

**Lois MacLean ('73)** lives in Edmonton, Alberta, practicing Law with the Law Society of Alberta. She is married to Richard Rand.

**Dolores (DePaiva) Sellers ('73)** works part-time as a doctor's assistant and cares for her young children. She spends the summer boating, in Kenora, with her family.

**Elizabeth Connellan ('75)** is a tour guide employed by Parks Canada at the Klondike National Historic Site. She lives in Dawson City, Yukon and would be delighted to see any B.H. staff, students, or Alumnae at the Park.

**Lauran (Gervais) Wyman ('76)** is pursuing a Masters Degree at the University of Manitoba in Marketing Research.

**Susan McGoey ('78)** has moved to Seoul, Korea, for two years.

**Andrea (Clarke) Sanderson ('78)** lives in Winnipeg and married David Sanderson, August 5, 1994.

**Victoria Burns-Guy ('79)** is a management consultant in Paris.

**Edith (Pease) Bovey ('80)** married Gerald Bovey in July, 1995. She currently teaches French immersion in Cornwall, while residing in Gananoque, Ontario.

**Jane (Kellock) Hladky ('80)** writes that she misses the late **Wendy Thompson ('79)** who was room-mate, team-mate, and a soul-mate. She also states that "**Lori (Jacks) Cullen ('79)**



and I have reacquainted ourselves. We both live in Edmonton. I really miss my B.H. friends — they were like sisters to me. I'd love to get a 20 year reunion together."

**Mary (Waters) Hrichishen ('80)** had twins on November 9, 1995 - Daniel (6 lbs., 2 oz.) and Melissa (5 lbs., 13 oz.). All parties are doing well!

**Susan Leibrock ('80)** lives in Campbell, California, and is a recreational therapist at the Rehabilitational Hospital in Los Gatos, CA.

**Nicola (Murray) Tory ('80)** gave birth to her second child, a son, called James William, on June 13, 1996.

**Indira Guha ('81)** is with Ion Communications in Toronto, Ont.

**Ariel Gurvey ('81)** states that she was transferred to Houston, Texas, in September '95. "While on a business trip to small town Longview, Texas (125 miles east of Dallas), I was surprised at breakfast to see **Ashleigh Banfield ('85)** as she did the morning news for a Dallas T.V. station. I used to see her on TV when I was in Calgary, and I'm not sure who is following the other around North America. For my classmates who have access to the Net, my email address is: gurvey2houston.davell.slb.com".

**Lynn (Premachuk) Brawn ('82)** gave birth to Evan John Brawn on March 8, 1996 — just one week after helping organize the B.H. Vancouver Reunion!

**Aynsley (Hinchliffe) Cockshott ('83)** gave birth to a boy, Owen Grant, on September 19, 1996.



**Ashleigh Banfield ('85)** is living in Dallas, Texas and working for FOX affiliate, K.D.F.W. - TV, as the morning news anchor. The show runs for three hours.

**Angela (Nichol) Dyborn ('85)** married Marten Dyborn, August 19, 1995.

They are expecting a baby in March.

**Maria Lutz ('85)** owns a chocolate shop called "Over the Moon" in Vancouver, B.C.

**Dr. Rashmi Nigam ('85)** has opened an office in Winnipeg, with Dr. Brian Gillespie, in the practice of ophthalmology.

**Kristine Banerjee ('86)** lives in Calgary where she is a speech-language pathologist. She has a Master of Science Degree majoring in Communication Disorders.

**Jill Condra ('86)** is studying for her Masters of Science Degree (clothing and textiles) and will spend next year studying 18th century men's costume in Museums and Libraries of the United Kingdom. She has received a Fellowship to carry out her studies.

**Joelle Foster-Balaksis ('86)** has degrees in Psychology and Business, and a Computer Applications Specialist Certificate. She is a business consultant with Airport Area.

**Ruth (Morse) Hermann ('86)** graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (Hons.) and is now a manager with the Royal Bank, Winnipeg.

**Angela Hilland ('86)** graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (Hons.) and now works as a Controller while she studies at the 4th level C.G.A.

**Leslie Malkin ('86)** graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology. She then studied Journalism at Red River Community College and is now the Assistant Editor for "Kids World", "What! A Magazine", "AgriFamily Business Magazine", and "Club in the Classroom Magazine".

**Carol McCullough ('86)** has a Masters of Science and works as an audiologist at the Children's Hospital. She is married to Paul Fast and their first child, Samuel Fast, was born July 10, 1996.

**Cheryl Melosky ('86)** is a graphic designer and illustrating artist for "Where" Winnipeg Magazine. She reports that she learned her love of design from Mrs. Nickel's design classes on the second floor of Aikins House.

**Tamara (Moore) Sabad ('86)** moved to Calgary after gaining her Bachelor of Commerce degree. She buys cosmetics, trains staff, and promotes Clarins Paris cosmetics.

**Carolyn (Seale) Scholz ('86)** is studying for her Masters in Science (clothing and textiles). She works as a research/teaching assistant at the University of Manitoba where she has a Graduate Fellowship. She is married and has a baby daughter, April Ellen Scholz.

**Shilpa Soni ('86)** has degrees in Science and Pharmacy, and is now studying first year medicine.

**Josephine (Kati) Wong ('86)** lives in Winnipeg, is a medical receptionist and has given birth to her second child, Tristen John.

**Andrea Baillie ('87)** is a court reporter in St. Catharines, Ont.

**Betty Law** (former staff) is a Councillor for the Village of Dunnottar.

Letter from Mexico:

*"Hello, my name is Patricia Diaz del Castillo. I went to B.H. 10 years ago. I was in Grade 7 and I lived in the B.H. Residence. Since then I receive your magazine The Portal, and I'm very glad, because with that magazine, I know what happens in school. I see my friends when it is an Alumnae reunion, and I read some information about ex-B.H. girls. My roommates were Christine Novotny and Amy Johnson. I know that Christine got married, and Amy was my best friend in B.H. We travelled together, we wrote each other for a long time, but now I have no idea where she is and I really, really want to get in touch with her, and my other friends like Christine, Andrea Oberdieck (she was Head Girl in Residence at that time). Also Jerrian George and Fumi Tammori, Dana McGillivray, - they graduated in June 1987. If you can help me to find them, or to get in touch by the magazine The Portal. Also I want to tell you that my cousin is in B.H. for this year. Her name is Nicole Salas and I told her that B.H. is a great School. I had such a wonderful time with great friends. I know that the B.H. Residence has changed, but I see that B.H. is still the greatest School I ever knew.*

*So I hope you can help me and help Nicole. She speaks a little English but she's a sweet girl. I will write some information that might help you to find my friends.*

*Year at B.H. 1986-87*

*Homeroom 7D - Mme*

*Dammermann*



*Principal Mr. T. Staunton*  
*Head Girl Susan Rich*  
*Sports Captain Fumi Tamamori*  
*School Captain Andrea Baillie*  
*My address: Patricia Diaz del*  
*Castillo, Cord. Himalaya #132-201,*  
*San Luis Potosi S.L.P., Mexico."*



**Margo Anne Adams ('88)** married Bradley Melvin Larsen June 22, 1996 in Lansing, Michigan. Margo has obtained her B.A., B.Sci., and M.A. and is completing her doctoral work in Psychology.

**Valerie Ternan ('89)** is an elementary and high school English teacher in Ulsan, Korea.

**Darlene (Anderson) Husby ('88)** is a Client Support Representative with Dow Jones Telerate in Toronto. "My job basically entails working with their trading floors and ensuring that all the traders and salespeople know where to find the data they're looking for and keeping them abreast of any new information we might be adding to the data feeds. It's a great job not only because it's exciting to work with those in the hub of the finance industry, but I work with people all day." She was married to Doug Husby in Toronto and Carol Wintemute ('88), Sharon Steinman ('88) and Kelly MacDonald ('88) attended the wedding.

**Patricia Kostuchuk ('88)** is living in Moscow, Russia and conducts business between Moscow and Vienna, London and Paris for a financial institution.

**Kristin Shanski ('88)** worked as a buyer for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for the Commonwealth Games in Victoria. She is now working in Vancouver on the set of the TV series "Millennium".

**Allison (Nichol) Stewart ('88)** married Cameron Stewart (S.J.R. '86) on August 10, 1996 at Westminster United Church. The reception was in East

Selkirk on his father's family farm, a historical site, as the homestead was



built in 1862 for Thomas Bunn, a member of the Council of Louis Riel. The groom and ushers wore kilts, while the bride wore a replica of her mother's bridal gown.

**Asma (Bukhari) Khan ('89)** is married to Physician Dr. Khizar Khan and lives in Philadelphia, PA.

**Natalya (Koth) Bull ('90)** was married August 27, 1994. She is a manager at Astral Photo and is pursuing a degree in Education, after a Bachelor of Arts in English. She states, "I feel very passionate about my teaching goals and can't wait to get into the classroom. I am going to try to tailor my education to fit the profile of the independent school system as it really is becoming the wave of the future. Down the road I'm thinking I'd like to pursue educational administration, but we'll see."



**Lynne (Sullivan) Caspick ('90)** was married in Vancouver, B.C. on June 29, 1996. Attending her wedding were Amanda Gyles ('91), Amanda Aldous (Grade 7), Katherine Aldous ('91), Maya Prabhu ('90), and Christine (Novotny) Ulicki ('90). Lynne and her husband honeymooned in Hawaii and

now Lynne is working towards a PhD in Clinical Psychology specializing in Forensic Psychology (ie. working with offenders and the legal system).

**Rageshwar Dulat ('90)** lives in Urbana, Illinois just outside of Chicago. She is working on her Masters degree in Art History.

**Jennifer Lukovich ('90)** has been chosen as a Graduate Resident Junior Fellows at Massey College which is a residential college, within the University of Toronto, for graduate students only. The Registrar of Massey College, **Anne Brumell ('59)**, writes that Jennifer is a delight and represents my old school with integrity, charm and academic achievement."

**Maya Prabhu ('90)** received a fellowship from the University of Dalhousie to study the effect of Aids on Southeastern Asia. She spent the summer in Vancouver, Hong Kong, and Thailand, carrying out her research. She has now returned to Halifax to pursue her medical studies.

**Karen Shanski ('90)** received the gold medal for Environmental Design at the University of Manitoba. She is now studying for her Masters in Architecture at the University of Manitoba.

**Christine (Novotny) Ulicki ('90)** has moved to Calgary where she is working in the oil industry.

**Jennifer Baron ('91)** graduated with her BA, majoring in Women's Studies, from the University of Western Ontario. She is working at Davids in Toronto.

**Katie (Florentine) Kinsey ('91)** was married in Phoenix, Arizona to David Kinsey. They reside in Phoenix where Katie has her own catering business.

**Monica Morberg ('91)** has completed a degree in Fine Arts at the University of Manitoba. She is considering further education towards her Masters in Art History.

**Julia Pouliot ('91)** has graduated from Simon Fraser University with a Degree in Fine Arts. She is a certified lighting specialist and has worked on such shows as "Showboat" and "Sunset Strip".

**Caroline Evans ('92)** directed the play "Media" by Euripedes which was performed in the Trappistes at the St. Norbert Arts and Cultural Centre this summer.

Allison Boulton ('93) back-packed around Europe this summer and says thanks to Madame Dammernann and Ms (Baillie) Fulton she was able to talk in French and convert her money. In September she returned to the University of Victoria and the Faculty of Commerce. She writes, "my biggest news is that I have been elected as a Director at Large for the University of Victoria Students' Society! That makes me a student representative on the Board of Directors."



Chantal Kreviazuk ('91) has signed a music contract with Sony Music Canada for \$1 million. Her first CD was released October 8, 1996. Chantal has been busy recording and travelling between Winnipeg, Toronto, and Los Angeles. She headed a star cast at the Aids Benefit Concert in Winnipeg in September. Congratulations, Chantal!

Ariadna Choptiany ('93) works for a Credit Union while studying Management at the University of Manitoba.

Louise Coyle ('93) spent the summer modelling in Japan and is now back at U.B.C. studying International Relations.

Jolene Harvey ('93) has completed her third year at Simon Fraser University concentrating on criminology and political science. She has spent two semesters with the coop program working in fields related to her degree. She spent four months with the Youth Specialized Supervision (Probation) Unit writing evaluative reports on young offenders for submission to court. She is currently with Canada Immigration as an Immigration Officer at the Vancouver International Airport.

## *Our Alumnae is important to us!*

### *Do you know where they are?*

Marianne Cumming ('62)  
Virginia Slayton ('67)  
Frances McEwan ('72)  
Deborah Kaumyer ('72)  
Karen Nauss ('72)  
Brenda Poirier ('72)  
Lesley David ('72)  
Kan Yang ('72)  
Dallas Barkman ('77)  
Suzanne Allemeier ('87)  
Sorrel Fitz-Simon ('87)  
Linda Kwong ('87)

Susan Lee ('77)  
Arabella Leung ('77)  
Nora Li ('77)  
Robin McCartney ('77)  
Punam Nath ('77)  
Elizabeth Pickup ('77)  
Sriwan Sethwan ('77)  
Michelle Shaw ('77)  
Pamela Gill ('77)  
Susan Briercliffe ('77)  
Dannie Kung ('77)

*Send found Alumna address to:  
Alumnae Office  
Balmoral Hall School  
630 Westminster Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 3S1*

### **Former Staff Gather for Lunch at the University Women's Club**



*I-r: (back) Enid Alcock,  
Ariadna Sabadini, Jean  
Curtis  
(front) Mary Pluhard, Jan  
Harper, Betty Law*



# Obituaries

Margaret Beatrice Gardner  
(Rupert's Land '29), July 18, 1996  
Eileen (Gray) Learoyd  
(Riverbend), November 17, 1996  
Margaret (Pilling) Tucker  
(Rupert's Land), July, 1996  
Mary E. Shepley (Riverbend staff),  
January 26, 1996.

## "Shep"

*by Carolyn (Dowler) Graham  
(Riverbend '48)*

A favourite of many a student for over a decade, "Shep" taught English and encouraged her pupils to appreciate literature. Sarcasm was an art with "Shep", but the quick wit was always delivered with a wry smile. While she maintained a happy teacher/student connection, there was always present, a warm feeling of a teacher/friend relationship. She was firm, but understanding, and as generous with her praise as with her corrections. She maintained an interest in the activities of her students long after they "graduated" and corresponded annually with some of them for over a half of a century.

"Shep", along with Grace Martin, enjoyed being reunited with many of their "girls" at Reunion '87, and "Shep's" continuing communication with some of her students was a great resource in making contacts for that event. She eagerly participated in the preparations, and the alums on the organizing committee thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with "Shep" in the new relationship of friend to friend. Some of us will miss our Christmas letter in '96, but many of our thoughts will turn fondly to "Shep" each time we hit the "grammar check" key.

Miss Carter did a tiny petit point for "Shep" one Christmas, and a few years ago, "Shep" passed it on to a former student. It now resides in the school archives, yet another piece of memorabilia to trigger fond remembrances of two of the people who had an immense influence on the maturing minds of the students of Riverbend — a great legacy indeed! With utmost respect, rest in peace, "Shep".

# 1996 Graduates Where Are They Going?

Takana Aoshima  
Nina Battison

Krista Bruce  
Wendy Campbell  
Shelley Chalmers  
Stephanie Clark  
Allyson Cooper  
Crystal Corriveau  
Heather Dawson

Erin Essery  
Jennifer Fultz

Lesley Hindle  
Lan Hong  
Sanna Hui  
Sumako Ikeda  
Raphaelle Labman

Christina Li  
Laura Mann  
Elizabeth McDonald  
Joelle Moon  
Yuko Omura  
Mandy Paradis  
Emily Rogers  
Michelle Saquet  
Rachel Schipper  
Sunita Seshia

Renee Simard  
Margaret Szelagowicz  
Stephanie Thorn  
Françoise Vouriot

Janet Wakal  
Flora Wang  
Maria Woo

Lena Yang  
Emily Young  
Kalyna Zazelenchuk

Returning to Japan - Shizuoka Eiwa  
University of Western Ontario - Science  
(\$2,000 scholarship for 4 years)  
University of Manitoba - Arts/Architecture - 2nd year  
Ryerson Polytechnical Institute - Fashion Design  
University of Victoria - Fine Arts  
Simon Fraser University - Criminology / Psychology  
University of Western Ontario - Social Sciences  
University of Winnipeg - Science (Biology major)  
University of Western Ontario - Science  
(Computer Science/Business major)  
Pursuing drama interests  
University of Winnipeg - Arts  
(Entrance Scholarship - \$1,200)  
University of Winnipeg - Arts  
University of Western Ontario - Social Sciences  
McGill University - Science  
Returning to Japan - Shizuoka Eiwa  
University of British Columbia - Arts  
(Entrance Scholarship - \$10,000)  
American University - Hotel Management  
McGill University - Science  
Royal Winnipeg Ballet  
Working for a year  
Red River Community College - Tourism  
University of Arizona - Science  
Cardiff University, Wales - Political Science  
University of Victoria - Science  
University of Toronto - Arts & Science  
University of British Columbia - Arts  
(Entrance Scholarship - \$10,000)  
University of Guelph - Environmental Science  
McGill University - Science  
University of Guelph - Biological Science  
G.A.P. Program - England (96-97)  
McGill University - Fall '97 - Science  
(Microbiology/Immunology major)  
Okanagan University College - Criminology  
University of Manitoba - Science  
University of British Columbia  
- Arts/Pre-Commerce  
University of Manitoba - Science  
Royal Winnipeg Ballet  
Simon Fraser University  
(Gordon Shrum National Scholarship - \$20,000)

# Provincial and National Awards

## Manitoba Schools Science Symposiums

Gold Medals: Kalya Bomback, Rebecca Coish, Erika Douwes, Heather Irving, Carissa Nikkel  
Silver Medals: Amber Bewza, Katarina French, Laura Lemon, Alison Rowe

Bronze Medals: Laura Brokopiw, Kristina Carrick, Kyla Chmara, Tiffany Dueck, Mae Khan Lee  
Recipient of a plaque for "Most Outstanding Individual Project at the Intermediate Level", as well as a complete set of World Book Encyclopedia:

Carissa Nikkel

Recipient of a plaque for "Outstanding Individual Physical Sciences Project at the Intermediate Level":

Erika Douwes

Recipient of a plaque for "Best Individual Engineering and Technology Project at the Intermediate Level", as well as enrolment in a two-week summer session at Mini-U:

Rebecca Coish

Recipient of a plaque for "Best Individual Energy Project at the Intermediate Level":

Kalya Bomback

## Manitoba Historical Society - Young Historians' Competition

Research:

1st Katie Hooker (5)

1st Sarah Briggs (6)

2nd Claire Dickson (5)

2nd Patricia Hrousalas (6)

Hon. Mention Shelagh Hare (5)

Fictionalized Research:

1st Alexandra Gadawski (5)

2nd Christina Kolt (5)

3rd Pypor Rouse (6)

Project:

1st Shoshanna Paul (5)

Model:

1st Rebecca Coish (6),

Carissa Nikkel (6)

2nd Tasia Mennell (6)

Hon. Mention Juliana Birek (5),

Emily Gravelines (6)

Mural:

1st Erika Douwes (5)

Poster:

1st Maya Oppenheimer (6)

2nd Alia Rudy (6)

## The Shrine Circus Poetry and Essay Contest

Winners (Written Category):

Erika Douwes (Grand Prize),

Amanda Humnicki (Hon. Men.)

## Winnipeg Competition Music Festival

Silver Grade 1 & 2 Choir

Silver Grade 3 & 4 Choir

Silver Grade 5 & 6 Choir

## Middle and Senior School Manitoba Historical Society Competition Grade 9

Model

1st Miranda Kowalec

Poster

1st Jamie Michie

2nd Megan Hargrove

Research

1st Aynsley Baldwin

2nd Chandra Gunther,

Gunwant Sandhu

Hon. Mention Johanna Forster

## Fictional Research

1st Cassandra Deane

2nd Susan Pritchard

Grade 11

Poster

Hon. Mention Jennifer Rausch

Essay: Dr. Edward C. Shaw Award

3rd Sarah Coyle

Family History

1st Kathryn Antenbring

Fictional Research

Hon. Mention Christy Finck

## COMMONWEALTH AWARDS

Girl Guides of Canada Anita Chung,

Sanna Hui, Maria Woo

## DEBATING:

### Provincial Junior High Debate

Novice

3rd Team Kathleen Brownell,

Rachael Gardner

4th Team Jina Pagura,

Jennifer Yamamoto

Novice Individual

3rd Kathleen Brownell

4th Anna Penner

Open

5th Team Lindsay Ross-Stewart,

Jyoti Seshia

## Junior High National Debate, To., ON

4th Team Lindsay Ross-Stewart

## International Independent Schools Public Speaking Championships, Boston

3rd School Aylia Mohammadi,

Sunita Seshia,

Rachel Schipper

1st in Persuasive,

1st in Extemporaneous Speaking

Aylia Mohammadi

## Western Debate Seminar, Prince Albert, SK

Maleen Mendis

## Rupert's Land Public Speaking Championships,

Balmoral Hall School

Top School - Balmoral Hall

Raphaelle Labman

Aylia Mohammadi,

Sunita Seshia

1st Overall Aylia Mohammadi

2nd Overall Sunita Seshia

3rd Overall Raphaelle Labman

## National Public Speaking Championships, S.J.R., Wpg.

Debate Final Raphaelle Labman

10th Overall Sunita Seshia

## World Debate and Public Speaking Championships,

Reading, England

1st in Persuasive, 4th in Debate

Aylia Mohammadi

## Senior Provincial Debate Championships

Top School Balmoral Hall

4th Team Heather Hrousalas,

Maleen Mendis

5th Team Mira Novek, Jennifer Stitz

## Western World Qualifying Tournament, Edmonton, AB

Heather Hrousalas

## National Debate Seminar, Windsor, ON

Mira Novek (20th place)

## FRENCH AWARDS (Art Oratoire)

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

2nd Jennifer Yamamoto

3rd Sarah Coates

### SENIOR SCHOOL

2nd Claire McLaughlin

3rd Aylia Mohammadi, Sarah Proulx,

Françoise Vouriot

## CANADIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION, 1996

### GAUSS CONTEST

Grade 7 Vivian Belik

Grade 8 Dawn Shanski

### PASCAL CONTEST (Grade 9)

Miranda Kowalec (medal)

### CAYLEY CONTEST (Grade 10)

Mira Novek (medal)

### FERMAT CONTEST (Grade 11)

Sarah Coyle (medal)

### EUCLID CONTEST (Grade 12)

Sanna Hui (medal)

## MANITOBA MATH LEAGUE CONTEST

(Grade 12) Flora Wang

(scored 3rd in Manitoba)

Lena Yang

(District 10 winner)

## CANADIAN MATH CONTEST (Grade 12)

(certificates of merit)

Sanna Hui, Christina Li,

Flora Wang, Maria Woo,

Lena Yang

## RED RIVER EXHIBITION - 1996

1st Emily Miller (batik quilt)

1st Maya Seshia (batik, tie-dye,

embroidered pillow)

1st & Point of Praise for Design

Allison Yearwood (painted,

embroidered surreal landscape)

2nd Sarah Carter (woven bag)

2nd Alana Miller (embd. appliqued pillow)

2nd Lisa Tudball (canvaswork cat)

3rd Lillian Panter (tie-dye bag)

3rd Jenny Stitz (Tie-dye, embd. pillow)

Point of Praise for Design

Shelley Halchuk (quilt)

Point of Praise for Design

Kristin Westdal (painted, embd. bag)

Participation Marianne Chatzougrou (embd. pillow)

## ATHLETIC AWARDS

### Inter-House Track and Field

\* Records Laura Mann (Glen Gairn)

Triple Jump - 8.56m

## MANITOBA SCHOOLS SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

Grade 7 Vivian Belik &

Ashley Hyra (Silver)

Dhiya Dilawri &

Victoria King

(Bronze)

Grade 8 Laura Fletcher (Gold)

Jasmine Schaeffer &

Simona Ioffe (Bronze)

## WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION #1 SCIENCE FAIR

Grade 7 Alara Hunniski (Hon. Mention)

Grade 8 Laura Fletcher (Gold)



# A Tribute to Sheila Milner

*by Kerry Montgomery*



*Sheila Milner with a picture of her friend, Barney, retires after 17 years at B.H.*

There is an empty feeling in Junior School, as we begin a new year without Sheila Milner and her loveable sidekick, Barney. Sheila retired after 17 years of teaching Grade 1 at Balmoral Hall School. She has touched the lives of a vast number of students, parents and teachers, throughout her teaching career.

Sheila developed lasting relationships with each staff member because she is thoughtful, caring and genuinely interested in people. Whenever a committee needs a member or whenever she perceives a need, Sheila is there, with a friendly smile, a positive outlook, and total involvement! She has always been open to incorporating new ideas and philosophies with her tried and true teaching methods, and she continually enjoyed new inservices and articles, which kept her methods up to date. Willing to share her ideas, her resources and her time made her treasured by her fellow colleagues.

In the classroom, Sheila displayed a firm belief in the ability of each and every child to be successful. She worked tirelessly and patiently, assisting each child to be the best that she could be. With this positive attitude, children gained self-confidence and a wonderful start on their education. Many young children have learned to read, to write in their journals, and to add and subtract under Sheila's careful guidance. They've also learned everything they wanted to know, and more, about dinosaurs. Sheila's love of animals has been most evident by her keeping her rabbit, Snowball, and, of course, her faithful dog, Barney, as resource teachers in the classroom. What wonderful role modelling for young children!

In 1993, Sheila received the Commemorative Medal from the Governor General of Canada for making a significant contribution to Canada, to her community, and to her fellow Canadians — a fitting tribute to an outstanding person.

# New Board Members



Gene Dunn is the President and CEO of Monarch Industries Limited, a multi-faceted manufacturing company. In his capacity with Federal Industries of Winnipeg, he served as Corporate VP of Planning, President and CEO of Willson Stationers and President and CEO of Cashway Building Centres. Mr. Dunn serves on a number of Boards including the Manitoba Division of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, the National Board of the Canadian Standards Association and the Board of Directors of Monarch Industries Limited.

His leisure time is spent building the family cottage at Lake of The Woods, playing golf and playing hockey with the Winnipeg Steelers Hockey Club. He is married, with two daughters, ages 10 and 21. His youngest daughter, Carleigh, is in her second year at Balmoral Hall, in Grade 5.



Heather Owen ('89), after graduating from Balmoral Hall, obtained her Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Political Science, from the University of Western Ontario. She worked as a Policy Specialist on women's issues with the Manitoba Government and is now the Community Relations Manager at Manitoba Telephone Systems. She also chairs the "Art and Soul" Committee at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Heather feels that she can add a special perspective to the Board of Governors. As an Alumna, she has knowledge of School tradition and history which are important perspectives for the Board. She sees the School as a whole, and her objective is to better the future of the School, because she may one day have a daughter attending Balmoral Hall.



Nancy Ball is the President of the Parent Association, and thus represents them on the Board of Governors. She has two daughters in the School, Kathryn in Grade 11 and Patricia in Grade 8. Nancy encourages more parents to become involved because she states, "I did volunteer work for the Association when we first came to the School four years ago, actually joined the Parent Association the following year and have been involved ever since. After becoming more involved in school life, I was more familiar with the routines, the teachers and the administration. I became much more comfortable with the environment and, therefore, had a better understanding of what was happening with my daughters. I have enjoyed the experience and have found it personally rewarding."

But the work of the Parent Association is also important for the School. In the past year, the Parent Association purchased computer equipment for both the Junior and Middle/Senior School Computer Labs, as well as a LCD projector. An internet-ready workstation was purchased for the Library. The Association also supplied nine electronic balances for the Science Labs, and furniture for the Atrium and third floor.



# Welcome New Faculty



**Barbara Janz** received her Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education from the University of Manitoba, in 1995. She specializes in elementary music and brings with her a love for music and reaching children through this universal language.

Barbara also received a Performer-Teacher diploma from the Western Board of Music in 1989, and taught piano and theory for 15 years. She has completed her 2nd level of Orff training and is a member of the Manitoba Orff Chapter, as well as Kodaly in Manitoba, and the Manitoba Music Educators Association.

Barbara is excited about her first year at B.H. and is appreciative of the supportive staff and parents and wonderful teaching environment. Barbara will be teaching JK - 2 music. She also enjoys travel, gourmet cooking, gardening and fine arts.



**Joyce Poole** has the cheerful smile that greets everyone at the front desk. She was born and raised in Winnipeg. She came to B.H. after several years of office experience, so she is used to a busy switchboard and greeting the public. She does volunteer work for the St. James Senior Centre and has worked as a Tour Hostess. Her hobbies are golf, knitting, crafts and walking.



**Darlene Sveinson** received her Bachelor of Education, majoring in Physical Education, minoring in Fine Arts, from the University of Manitoba. Darlene comes to B.H. with extensive experience in Creative Movement/Dance, Educational Gymnastics, Basic Movement Skills Development, Integrated Arts Programming (dance, drama, music and visual art), Fitness, Health and Wellness. She is a

MFLDA Certified Fitness Leader with 13 years experience as an aerobics instructor, trainer and conference presenter, performing her fitness leadership skills for both children and adults at Tights Athletics, Bodyworks, Court Sports/Fitness Club and Rancho La Puerta Fitness Resort in Baja, Mexico. Darlene also has a Red River Community College Diploma in Advertising Art and has been a Professional Graphic Designer for 14 years. Darlene will be teaching Junior Kindergarten to Grade 1 Physical Education, coaching Junior Volleyball and Basketball and choreographing dance routines for the Performing Arts Program.



**Lois Peterer** was born and raised in Saskatchewan. She moved to Winnipeg and attended the University of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg, where she received her Education Certification and B.A. Lois began her teaching career in St. James-Assiniboia, teaching Grade 4. After taking time off to stay at home with her two children, she returned to St. James-Assiniboia spending several years teaching Kindergarten, to Grade 6, and Special Education. Lois will be teaching Grade 5 Science at B.H. Lois has also had the enjoyable experience of teaching Summer Scholars at B.H. the last two summers. Her hobbies include many outdoor activities, as well as knitting, quilting and crafts.

## NEW APPOINTMENT



**Laurel McFarlane** Congratulations are extended to Laurel McFarlane on her appointment as Assistant Director of Junior School. She will continue to teach Grade 5 Language Arts and Mathematics to her home-room class, in addition to her new administrative duties. Laurel has been a valued class-

room teacher to her Grade 5 students at Balmoral Hall for the last 13 years. Besides participating in all the activities that are expected of a Junior School Teacher, she has coordinated the Grade 4 - 6 Project Fair and worked in conjunction with the Manitoba Schools' Science Symposium. Laurel has had administrative experience by being the Grades 4 - 6 Chairperson for six years. We know Laurel will balance her new responsibilities with expertise, grace, and just a touch of humour!



# Letter To The Head

Dear Diane:

You will know by now that Lesley is back in Winnipeg, living down the street from Balmoral Hall, and attending the University of Winnipeg. This in itself attests, I think, to the deep impression Balmoral Hall School had on our daughter. Her comfort level with the environment, and the prospect of maintaining connections with B.H. and Mrs. Rieger, seemed to be strong drawing cards in her decision to return to Winnipeg. This confirms in our minds, along with her final grades, that she and we, made the best possible decision in having her attend B.H. Had she exerted just a little more effort in the Community Service component of the program, she would have achieved an 80% average. That she came so close to this is, nonetheless, confirmation of the wisdom of our decisions, and the willingness of B.H. to accept Lesley and work so diligently with her. She has progressed so beautifully, and we are indeed very pleased. Most gratifying of all is seeing Lesley herself acknowledge and now, so enthusiastically build upon, that potential that has been in hiding for so long.

We very much enjoyed speaking with you at the graduation dinner, and do appreciate your personal interest in and encouragement of Lesley. This means a great deal to parents, but seems especially important to our daughters. Your recognition and mention of each girl's particular talents and abilities leaves an indelible impression on them, we are certain of that.

We wish you continuing success as you so competently lead the School towards the year 2001. What a dizzying prospect the forthcoming millenium is, as it draws closer.

Best regards to you from all of us,  
The Hindle Family



*Diane Bieber, Head of School,  
and Lesley Hindle ('96) at the  
Graduation Dinner/Dance*

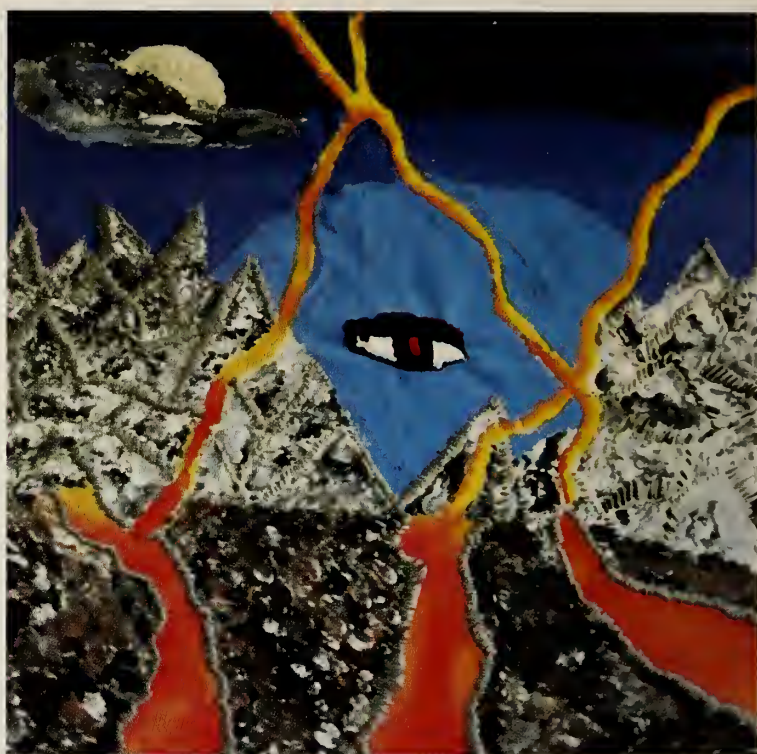


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*The clothes modelled by (l-r) Michelle Ching, Allison Yearwood, Kristin Westdal, and Jennifer Stitz, were designed and made by Wendy Campbell ('96). Wendy is studying at the School of Fashion at Ryerson Polytechnic University. Wendy's eye for colour and design includes dying, painting, batiking and weaving her material before she sews the final design together. She has a way of envisioning fashion and we wish her well in her career*

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*Top Left: Batik, tie-dye, embroidered pillow by Maya Seshi—First Prize (Red River Exhibition).*

*Top Right: Painted, embroidered surreal landscape by Alison Yearwood—First Prize & Point of Praise for Design (Red River Exhibition).*

*Bottom: Batik quilt by Emily Miller—First Prize (Red River Exhibition).*



FOUNDED IN 1901

**Balmoral Hall School**

630 Westminster Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3S1